HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 91 By Williams (Wil)

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity at Middle Tennessee State University on the occasion of their twentieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize worthwhile university groups who are celebrating significant anniversaries; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity chapter at Middle Tennessee State University, which this year is celebrating their twentieth anniversary, has a distinguished record of excellence and service; and

WHEREAS, the national group was founded at Richmond College on November 1, 1901 by twelve sons of Baptist ministers; following the guiding principle of Peace through Brotherhood, they adopted Three Cardinal Principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love; and

WHEREAS, a leader among fraternities, Sigma Phi Epsilon has the largest Educational endowment of any national fraternity, the largest number of undergraduate members, more leadership programs and more dedicated alumni than any other social fraternity in the world; and

WHEREAS, the MTSU chapter was chartered by 31 brothers on March 12, 1977, as the 245th chapter in fraternity history. The original house was on Main Street in Murfreesboro and the group moved to its present location at 2719 East Main in 1980; and

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WHEREAS, in their twenty years of existence at MTSU, Sigma Phi Epsilon has provided a large number of student leaders, including three Student Government Association presidents; and

WHEREAS, for the past five years, the MTSU chapter has been the primary sponsor of the Quad Rugby Tournament for disabled athletes; and

WHEREAS, in the true spirit of the "Volunteer state", Sig Ep has compiled a phenomenal record of more than 5,000 hours of community service in the last two years; and

WHEREAS, the MTSU chapter has converted to the fraternity's new development program entitled the Balanced Man project, a program which stresses continued growth and development throughout the fraternal experience, not just during pledgeship; and

WHEREAS, the chapter has received a large number of important honors in just the last two years; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, the MTSU chapter was named the Fraternity of the Year; was the All-Sports Champion, received the Winner's Circle Award and the Dean's List Award honors given at Carlson Leadership Academies to recognize chapters that are in the top quartile in academics and manpower on their campus; and

WHEREAS 1997 honors included the Manpower Excellence Award, an honor given to a select group of chapters whose manpower is in the top quartile on campus, and the Excelsior Award for Finances, which recognizes the chapter's extraordinary effort in reducing the national debt to zero for the first time in a decade and a half (the chapter house will be paid for in only 3.5 years); and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we salute the numerous accomplishments of this fine group of young men; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate the Sigma Phi Epsilon chapter at Middle

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Tennessee State University on the occasion of their twentieth anniversary and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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